

FACT SHEET

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

Titan II Space Launch Vehicle Profile

The Titan II space launch vehicle is a modified Titan II Intercontinental Ballistic Missile that can lift approximately 4,200 pounds into low-Earth polar orbit. The rocket consists of two liquid-propellant stages, a payload adapter and payload fairing. The Air Force and Lockheed Martin have successfully launched 11 Titan II Space Launch Vehicles from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif.

Lockheed Martin built more than 140 Titan ICBMs, once the vanguard of America's nuclear deterrent force, for the Air Force. Ten manned and two unmanned Titan IIs were flown as space launch vehicles in NASA's Gemini program in the mid-1960s. Deactivation of the Titan II ICBM system began in July 1982. The last missile was taken from its silo at Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark., June 23, 1987. Deactivated missiles are in storage at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson, Ariz.

Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company's Astronautics Operations has modified 14 Air Force Titan II ICBMs under contract to the Air Force Space & Missile Systems Center for use as space launch vehicles. This includes modifying the forward structure of the second stage to accommodate a 10-foot diameter payload fairing with variable lengths; manufacturing the new



A Titan II launches a DMSP satellite from Vandenberg AFB. *Photo courtesy Lockheed Martin.*

fairings plus payload adapters; refurbishing the Titans' liquid rocket engines; upgrading the inertial guidance systems; developing command, destruct and telemetry systems; performing payload integration; and modifying Space Launch Complex 4 West at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., to conduct the launches.

The Titan II and Titan IVB Space Launch Vehicle programs are managed by the Titan systems program office at the Air Force Space and Missile Systems Center at Los Angeles Air Force Base. The Space and Missile Systems Center is a unit of the Air Force Space Command at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado, and is the center of technical excellence for researching, developing and purchasing military space systems. SMC is also responsible for on-orbit check-out, testing, sustainment and maintenance of military satellite constellations and other Department of Defense space systems.

Titan II Space Launch Vehicle Data

FIRST STAGE

Length: 70 feet Diameter: 10 feet

Engine Thrust: 474,000 pounds (vacuum)

ISP: 296 sec (vacuum)

SECOND STAGE

Length: 40 feet Diameter: 10 feet

Engine Thrust: 100,000 pounds (vacuum)

ISP: 316 sec (vacuum)

LIQUID ROCKET ENGINES

Refurbished Titan II ICBM engines

Propellant: Nitrogen Tetroxide & Aerozine 50

Subcontractor: Aerojet
PAYLOAD FAIRING

Diameter: 10 feet

Lengths: 20 to 30 feet (25 feet for Coriolis) Aluminum skin-stringer tri-sector design

Subcontractor: Boeing

GUIDANCE and NAVIGATION

Inertial Guidance System Consisting of Inertial Measurement Unit and Missile Guidance Computer

Subcontractor: Ensco

TITAN II SPACE LAUNCH VEHICLE FLIGHTS

Sept. 5, 1988 – Titan IIG-1 / SLC-4W / First Titan II SLV /

Classified Payload

Sept. 5, 1989 – Titan IIG-2 / Classified Payload April 25, 1992 – Titan IIG-3 / Classified Payload Oct. 5, 1993 – Titan IIG-5 / NOAA LandSat 6

Jan. 25, 1994 – Titan IIG-11 / Deep Space Program Science Experiment 1 for the Missile Defense Agency. Clementine was

the first U.S. moon mission in more than two decades.

April 4, 1997 – Titan IIG-6 / Defense Meteorological Satellite

Program S-14 satellite

May 13, 1998 – Titan IIG-12 / Advanced TIROS-NPOES

Meteorological Satellite (NOAA-K)

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.
June 19, 1999 – Titan IIG-7 / QuikSCAT Scatterometer for
NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab. (NASA/Ball Aerospace &
Technologies Corp. Ocean Winds monitoring spacecraft).
Dec. 12, 1999 – Titan IIG-8 / Defense Meteorological Satellite
Program 15

Sept. 21, 2000 – Titan IIG-13 / Advanced TIROS-NPOES

(NOAA-L) satellite.

June 24, 2002 - Titan IIG-14/ Advanced TIROS-NPOES

(NOAA-M) satellite.